

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 23-25 and 30-34 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-22. (*Cancelled*)

23. (currently amended) An antenna system, comprising a beam-forming network linked to a plurality of antenna elements ~~organised~~organized, in operation, into a plurality of first-order groups of antenna elements, the beam-forming network comprising:

a plurality of local networks, each of said local networks for manipulating ~~operable to manipulate~~ signals received by or to be transmitted by antenna elements of at least one ~~or more~~ of said plurality of first-order groups of antenna elements;

a common remote network for manipulating signals received from or to be transmitted to said plurality of local networks; and

a controller ~~operable to reconfigure~~for dynamically reconfiguring the ~~organisation~~organization of groups from said plurality of first-order groups of antenna elements into at least one ~~or more~~ second-order groups of antenna elements.

24. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein the ~~organisation~~organization of antenna elements into said plurality of first-order groups is fixed.

25. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein said controller is operable further to select a frequency band for receiving signals from or transmitting signals to said at least one or more second-order groups of antenna elements.

26. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein each of said plurality of local networks is operable to combine signals received from the antenna elements of a respective first-order group before transmission to the remote network and to separate a signal received from the remote network into signals for transmission to the antenna elements of a respective first-order group.

27. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein the local network is operable with RF signals.

28. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 27, wherein the remote network is operable with optical frequency signals.

29. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 28, wherein the local network is operable to upconvert an RF signal to an optical frequency signal prior to transmission to the remote network.

30. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein the remote network is operable to ~~digitise~~digitize a signal received from the local network.

31. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein the remote network ~~is operable to provide~~provides true time delay to signals received from or for transmission to said plurality of local networks.

32. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein said antenna elements are operable with one of two ~~polarisations~~polarizations.

33. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 32, wherein the ~~polarisations~~polarizations are mutually orthogonal.

34. (currently amended) An antenna system according to Claim 23, wherein each of said at least one or more second order groups ~~are~~is provided with ~~their own~~a receiver.

35. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 23, further comprising at least one group of antenna elements for use in an ESM analysis mode.

36. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 35, comprising a further beam-forming network operable to receive signals from the antenna elements of said at least one group of antenna elements for use in an ESM analysis mode.

37. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 36, wherein the further beam-forming network comprises a local network and a remote network.

38. (previously presented) An antenna system according to Claim 23, further comprising ESM antenna elements for transmission of ESM signals.

39. (previously presented) A platform comprising at least one antenna system according to Claim 23.

40. (previously presented) A platform according to Claim 39, wherein the platform is an airborne vehicle, a ship or a boat.